

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-21 are pending. By this response, Applicants elect claims 1-9 for consideration.

Claims 10-21 are withdrawn.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140 under Order No. PTB-4750-46.

Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____ /Paul T. Bowen/
Paul T. Bowen
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100